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REMARKS

The Office Action of 06/13/2007 has been carefully considered. In response thereto, the claims have been amended as set forth above. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 10 and 11 were rejected as being anticipated by Van Den Heuvel. Claims 1 and 3-11 were rejected as being anticipated by Baliga. Claims 1, 10 and 11 were rejected as being anticipated by Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Claims 5, 8 and 9 were rejected as being unpatentable over Baliga in view of Van Den Heuvel. Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly distinguish over the cited references. The rejection of claim 5 and its dependent claims is respectfully traversed. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended to recite a two-stepped shield comprising a first step and a second step, each of the first step and the second step having a height not substantially less than a thickness of said shield. Clearly, the steps are formed deliberately and are not an artifact of manufacture ("unsmoothness") as in the case of the prior art applied in the Office Action. The prior art is not believed to teach or suggest any such feature as presently claimed.

Claim 5 was previously amended to make clear that the shield is separate from the source electrode. In Figure 9 of Baliga, the shield and the source electrode are formed as one. The rejection states in part: "Van Den Heuvel discloses the shield is separate from the source electrode (Figure 1)... [I]t would have been obvious...to have modified the electronic device taught by Baliga with the shield is separate from the source electrode as taught by Van Den Heuvel in order to obtain a device capable of operating at high voltages and high frequencies with a simple and inexpensive method."

However, in Figure 1 of Van Den Heuvel, the shield 27 is connected to the source electrode 11 just as in Baliga. The rejection is therefore not understood.

Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-11 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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